

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1 and 10 as follows:

1. ^{Four times}
(~~Thrice~~ amended) A method of trimming aluminum sheet comprising: ←
securing the aluminum sheet in a die adjacent a cutting blade at a cutting angle of from about 10 to about 30 degrees measured from a plane perpendicular to a cutting direction of the cutting blade and with a cutting blade clearance of at least 5 percent of the thickness of the aluminum sheet measured between the blade and the die; and
trimming the aluminum sheet at the cutting angle and with the cutting blade clearance to thereby produce a trimmed aluminum sheet with substantially no slivers.

10. (Thrice amended) A method of trimming an aluminum sheet comprising:
securing the aluminum sheet between a die and a pad at a cutting angle of from about 10 to about 30 degrees adjacent a cutting blade wherein the cutting angle is measured from a plane perpendicular to a cutting direction of the cutting blade, and with a cutting blade clearance of at least about 5 percent of the thickness of the aluminum sheet measured between the blade and the die; and
trimming the aluminum sheet at the cutting angle and with the cutting blade clearance to thereby produce a trimmed aluminum sheet with substantially no slivers.

Please cancel Claim 11.

Please amend Claims 12 and 13 as follows:

12. (Twice amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the cutting angle is from about 15 to about 25 degrees.

13. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the clearance is at least about 10 percent of the thickness of the aluminum sheet.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment Claims 1-5, 10 and 12-17 will be pending in the application.

The Examiner's indication that Claims 2-5 and 13-16 recite allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation.

By the present Amendment, a paragraph at page 3 of the specification referring to Fig. 4 has been changed to more clearly indicate that Fig. 4 illustrates sliver generation during